

Outcomes of Applications for Disability Benefits

Table 61.
Medical decisions at the hearing level or above, by year of application and program,
1992–2005

Year	All decisions			Decisions on applications for Social Security only			Decisions on applications for both Social Security and SSI		
	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^a (percent)	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^a (percent)	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^{a,b} (percent)
All disabled beneficiaries									
1999	261,346	189,006	72.3	143,002	112,016	78.3	118,344	76,990	65.1
2000	284,133	203,844	71.7	153,962	119,823	77.8	130,171	84,021	64.5
2001	306,406	219,331	71.6	161,117	126,039	78.2	145,289	93,292	64.2
2002	353,183	253,687	71.8	182,603	144,294	79.0	170,580	109,393	64.1
2003	341,932	251,625	73.6	172,624	139,964	81.1	169,308	111,661	66.0
2004	195,317	149,897	76.7	99,567	83,807	84.2	95,750	66,090	69.0
2005	37,326	31,201	83.6	21,260	18,998	89.4	16,066	12,203	76.0
Workers									
1992	275,863	201,359	73.0	131,624	105,371	80.1	144,239	95,988	66.5
1993	310,655	217,816	70.1	143,997	112,593	78.2	166,658	105,223	63.1
1994	323,607	220,645	68.2	156,458	119,338	76.3	167,149	101,307	60.6
1995	301,917	202,739	67.2	150,882	113,781	75.4	151,035	88,958	58.9
1996	306,245	204,704	66.8	157,790	116,292	73.7	148,455	88,412	59.6
1997	267,275	185,887	69.5	141,008	107,367	76.1	126,267	78,520	62.2
1998	251,467	178,935	71.2	134,864	104,678	77.6	116,603	74,257	63.7
1999	257,301	186,207	72.4	139,930	109,831	78.5	117,371	76,376	65.1
2000	279,860	200,904	71.8	150,720	117,529	78.0	129,140	83,375	64.6
2001	302,156	216,406	71.6	157,867	123,739	78.4	144,289	92,667	64.2
2002	348,368	250,339	71.9	178,958	141,657	79.2	169,410	108,682	64.2
2003	337,564	248,587	73.6	169,635	137,765	81.2	167,929	110,822	66.0
2004	192,969	148,243	76.8	98,050	82,655	84.3	94,919	65,588	69.1
2005	36,777	30,737	83.6	20,842	18,633	89.4	15,935	12,104	76.0
Widow(er)s									
1999	2,926	2,229	76.2	2,258	1,744	77.2	668	485	72.6
2000	3,038	2,327	76.6	2,345	1,821	77.7	693	506	73.0
2001	2,929	2,279	77.8	2,318	1,820	78.5	611	459	75.1
2002	3,222	2,529	78.5	2,545	2,029	79.7	677	500	73.9
2003	2,962	2,341	79.0	2,116	1,712	80.9	846	629	74.3
2004	1,666	1,345	80.7	1,150	951	82.7	516	394	76.4
2005	444	398	89.6	342	313	91.5	102	85	83.3

(Continued)

Table 61.
Medical decisions at the hearing level or above, by year of application and program,
1992–2005—Continued

Year	All decisions			Decisions on applications for Social Security only			Decisions on applications for both Social Security and SSI		
	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^a (percent)	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^a (percent)	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^{a,b} (percent)
Adult children									
1999	1,119	570	50.9	814	441	54.2	305	129	42.3
2000	1,235	613	49.6	897	473	52.7	338	140	41.4
2001	1,321	646	48.9	932	480	51.5	389	166	42.7
2002	1,593	819	51.4	1,100	608	55.3	493	211	42.8
2003	1,406	697	49.6	873	487	55.8	533	210	39.4
2004	682	309	45.3	367	201	54.8	315	108	34.3
2005	105	66	62.9	76	52	68.4	29	14	48.3

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Disability Research file, 100 percent data.

NOTES: Data are current through August 2006.

Because a number of applications remain pending for more recent years, the allowance rate will change over time.

Applications with a medical decision may be pending a final nonmedical decision or be subsequently denied for nonmedical reasons.

A revised process was introduced on October 1, 1999, in 10 states, under which initial denials could be appealed directly to the hearing level without a reconsideration.

Data from 1992 to 1998 are available for disabled workers only.

SSI = Supplemental Security Income.

a. Rate determined by dividing medical allowances by all medical decisions for that year.

b. Rate for the Social Security portion only.

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